

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5603

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5611

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SA, EG, LIBYA

SUBJECT: BBC BROADCAST AUG. 14, 1976

THE BBC ANNOUNCED TONIGHT THAT SADAT "HAS THE COMPLETE
SUPPORT OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR WHATEVER MAY LIE AHEAD "IN
HIS CONFRONTATION WITH KADAFI. THEY ADDED THAT SADAT "FEELS HE
CANNOT ALLOW THAT GREAT NATION (LIBYA) TO BECOME THE
PLAYTHING OF A MADMAN" AND THEY ADD THAT SADAT HAS SENT
WARNINGS TO ALL STATES BORDERING ON LIBYA, INCLUDING CHAD
AND NIGER, THAT KADAFI IS TRAINING TERRORISTS TO OVERTHROW THEIR
GOVERNMENTS. I WOULD SAY THIS ALL SMELLS LIKE AN OPERATION IS
AFOOT, WOULDN'T YOU? I EXPECT TO BE SEEING SAUD MONDAY MORNING
BUT PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE ME TO SEE HIM SOONER? MAY I HAVE
YOUR COMMENTS? THE EGYPTIAN TROOP BUILD-UP ON THE BORDER
IS BEING REPORTED ALSO. PERHAPS ITS ALL AN ARAB WAR OF NERVES.
PORTER

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